

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the Assassination  
of Abdul Kharzai in Pakistan**

The European Union has learnt with dismay the news of the brutal murder of the former Afghan parliamentarian and Minister Abdul Ahad Kharzai in Quetta, Pakistan, on 14 July 1999. Mr. Kharzai was a well known advocate of peace and reconciliation of the Afghan people and his murder was clearly an act against this goal to which the EU lends its support.

The European Union has noticed with concern the growing number of similar assassinations of Afghan political figures resident in Pakistan. The European Union condemns these murders as it condemns all such acts of violence. It urges the Pakistani government to ensure that all Afghans resident in Pakistan receive full protection from such attacks.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated country Cyprus and the EFTA countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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